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OPINION

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Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

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January admits and transfer students transition into campus life

by Erica Ivins '21
Staff Writer

PHOTO COURTESYOF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Undeterred by snowstorms and sub-zero temperatures, January admittance and transfer students arrived on campus for their first semester as Hamilton students.

Starting on Friday, Jan. 18, the College welcomed its newest group of students to campus.

The subsequent weekend, called January Orientation, helped to acclimate this year's January admittance students — who are often colloquially referred to as "Jans" — as well as the new transfer students to campus and college life.

Some past January admit students returned to campus early in order to partake in the orientation for the next generation of Jans and to help all the new students settle in on the Hill.

"Most of the orientation leaders were Jans that had gone through the same experience that the incoming Jans are going through," said Eric Nahm '21, a January admit last year. "We were able to connect with them [...] by sharing our experiences with the incoming Jans."

Brian Lynch '21 added, "There were very few Jans as orientation leaders last year, whereas this year all but two of the orientation leaders [were Jans]."

"Moving forward," he added, "I think that the school should make more of an effort to recruit Jans as orientation leaders because we went through the same experience and have the advice that can help new Jans acclimate a little faster."

While many members of the newest class of January admits and transfer students reported feeling excited to join the community during orientation, some offered suggestions for improvement to the welcoming process in the future.

"It was nice to have previous Jans as Orientation Leaders, since they could share stories about their transition to Hamilton," said Maeve Sebold '22. "I do think Jan Orientation could be improved by having more input from the administration in regards to structure and programming, as this would benefit both the orientation leaders and the current Jans."

Theo Karavolas '22 said he thought the organization of some orientation events could have been improved, commenting that aspects of the programming "felt very last minute."

"Some of the sessions were helpful," he said, while others "felt very redundant."

Transfer students from all grades also attended the orientation.

Sophie Ruzecki '21 offered one suggestion for improving the orientation experience of transfer students in the future, saying, "I think that more can be done to integrate the transfers with the Jans and with their respective grades because it seems much harder for them."

She added that January admit students who did not participate in the January admit fall program in London are also included in this group with transfer students.

Some found the mid-year matriculation to be intimidating at first.

"The first month or so was difficult as any new situation is, but now Hamilton very much feels like home," said Ruzecki. "It's important to not get caught up in trying to find your niche or your group right away. It takes time and in the end it all works out!"

Lynch echoed Ruzecki, saying, "I think my acclimation to Hamilton was successful because almost right off the bat I was able to find a group on campus, The Buffers, that essentially became a second family."

"I do not want to make it seem like the transition is easy though," she added.

Some students said the workload of new classes at a new school also produced initial concerns.

"I was a little worried about the transition in rigor and work load coming from the Arcadia London Program. So far I seem to be managing, but there's quite a gap between the two curricula," said Karavolas.

Some past January admit students found that although the Jan and transfer student community on campus readily welcomes the new additions to the student body, the general Hamilton community does not always show the same level of enthusiasm.

"Parts of the Hamilton community welcome the Jans, however, it is not always as good as it could be," Nahm said. "There are some stereotypes surrounding Jans that are not true, which can be hard to disprove depending on who you're talking to."

Other students found that the close relationship between all four years of Jans made them feel socially welcome in their first weeks on campus.

"When I came back from London, all the older Jans were so eager to ask me about my experience and also offer advice for transitioning back to Hamilton," said Ruzecki. "Because of this special bond that only 40 or so students per grade understand, it's really nice to have a strong Jan community."

First-year student Cherry Zhang agreed.

"I felt definitely welcomed!" she said. "The Jan community here is really tight. I am glad that I am a Jan."

Overall, many of the new Jans say that they felt welcomed by the Hamilton community and added that they look forward to their future on the Hill.

"From my very first day meeting with the previous Jans, to my first exposure to other students in my dorm and professors in class, I have felt very welcome at Hamilton," said Sebold.

Karavolas added, "I've made so many great new friends already on campus. Everyone is so genuinely curious about my experience and London. The people have been very welcoming.

"I love being on the Hill, it's a different way of life than London, but if anything my expectations have been exceeded."

HAVOC sees solid volunteer turnout for annual MLK Jr. Day of Service

by Jonina Mignon '21
Staff Writer

On Saturday, Jan. 26, the Hamilton Association for Volunteering, Outreach and Charity (HAVOC) held its 21st-annual MLK Jr. Day of Service. Along with Make A Difference Day in the fall semester, the MLK Jr. Day of Service is one of HAVOC's largest volunteer events. Working alongside other organizations and people on campus, including the Community Outreach and Opportunity Project (COOP) and Director of Community Outreach Amy James, HAVOC connects with various volunteer sites in the neighboring communities, particularly in Clinton and Utica, to send student volunteers for a day of helping others.

Sites this year included nursing homes, daycare centers, farms and animal shelters many of which HAVOC regularly partners with throughout the year. Organizations like the Thea Bowman House, Spring Farm Cares, and the Study Buddies program participate in larger volunteer events while also working with HAVOC on a weekly and monthly basis.

For the MLK Jr. Day event, students had the option of signing up as individuals or as groups, incentivizing them to work together with friends, sports teams, clubs, and other groups during a day of volunteering.

Walt Westhoff '21, the co-director of HAVOC, said "turnout this year was very similar to previous years. This year, we did not have as many sites, due to the large amounts of snow shutting down most outdoor sites. If it weren't for the snow, we would be able to have even more volunteers."

Still, despite the weather, many students came out and spent their Saturday giving back to the community. For many volunteers, it was not their first time participating.

"I try to volunteer on campus as much as I can, but I wish I could volunteer more," said Yuri Choi '21. "It's a little hard to find time to make time for everything. I do volunteer every service day that is available and I will continue to do so."

Other students described the sense of fulfillment derived from volunteer work.

"What I love most about volunteering is the fact that I'm making a change, no matter how small," said Noemi Meli '21. "I love the idea of helping people and giving back to my community."

Kayla White '21 agreed, saying, "What I like most about volunteering is the fact that I never regret doing it. It's such a rewarding experience to see the kind of impact that the fewest hours of help with clean up or the minutes spent helping someone with homework makes.

"It makes you realize that it really isn't hard to lift someone's spirits, and it kind of instills this hope and inspiration in you from the downright happiness that results from just helping someone out."

Going forward, HAVOC plans to continue providing opportunities for those who want to volunteer. Westhoff said that the group hopes to "grow the MLK Jr. Day of Service even more, adding even more sites and allowing more students to volunteer."

PHOTO COURTESY OF JONINA MIGNON '21

Pictured from left: John Dennis '20, Lantz Kilburn '20, and Morgan Perry '21 display their MLK Jr. Day volunteers shirts.

Christine Walsh '21 embraces role as assistant mayor of hometown

by Ben Westcott '20
Staff Writer

Christine Walsh '21 is no stranger to civil service work.

Two summers ago, she interned at city hall in her hometown of Milford, CT. There, she worked alongside two other interns, assisting in the city's community development projects.

This winter, however, Walsh's foray into the realm of government came with a title that ranked just slight above her previous intern job: assistant mayor.

Walsh was offered the position while campaigning for local candidates in Milford, a coastal city with an estimated population of 52,536 people. Milford's previous assistant mayor had retired at the end of 2018, and the mayor and his associates were looking for a candidate to temporarily fill the position until a more long-term replacement could be found. Walsh jumped at the opportunity.

"I am attracted to civil government because I find it [is] one of the best ways to serve my community in a tangible and effective way," she said.

Walsh's tenure as assistant mayor spanned almost two months, from late November to mid-January. During that time, Walsh did her share of administrative duties, such as answering phone calls and emails. Along with these more mundane assignments, Walsh was tasked with coordinating with people in the public and private sectors to complete projects, attended economic development roundtables, represented the mayor's office at hazard mitigation meetings, and even had the chance to accompany Mayor Benjamin Blake at ribbon cuttings and other public events.

Walsh's job allowed her to get to know Mayor Blake on a more personal level, particularly during conversations during car rides to and from public functions. The two bonded through their shared experiences as history majors. Walsh was able to learn more about Blake's role as mayor and how he became a city leader. "Mayor Blake grew up in Milford and simply wanted to continue to make it a great place to live, work, and raise a family," Walsh said.

The most memorable assignment for Walsh during her time as assistant mayor was a project in which a local artist was creating a mural in a railroad underpass. This effort was part of Milford's broader beautification initiative to revitalize the city in aesthetic ways. Walsh met with the artist who would paint the mural, as well as Milford's Arts Council Director and Economic Development Director.

"This project has been trying to get underway for the last three years or so," Walsh said. "Finally we were surveying the space and actually formulating the plan to get everything together. That was cool to see something that I knew would be happening and could see the tangible results. I'll probably be able to see [the mural] in the spring sometime."

Walsh says working on projects that hope to have a tangible effect on the community was of utmost importance to her as assistant mayor. "To be able to work on projects that have the potential to benefit the daily lives of others is, for me, a way in which I feel I can serve the public good," she said. "Government has the power to structurally change and transform people's lives."

While Walsh still remains uncertain about the specific details of her future career plans, she believes that her time as assistant mayor of Milford has shed some light on what she is looking for in a job as she moves forward.

"It has amplified my desire to work with people constantly, serving some kind of community," she said.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BOB HANDELMAN

This fall, Christine Walsh '21 (left) served as assistant mayor for Benjamin Blake (right) in her hometown of Milford, C.T.

Levitt Leadership Institute program teaches leadership through experience and study

by Isabel Kierstead '21
Staff Writer

Before the rest of Hamilton students arrived on campus in late January, a group of students was busy participating in the annual Levitt Leadership Institute (LLI) training program. The LLI's aim is to develop and expand the leadership skills required for societal and personal change in a week-long intensive program held on campus.

This year, 26 students participated in the program in concert with a 300-level College course. To be eligible, students must have maintained or exceeded a 2.5 GPA in addition to submitting a faculty reference before entering the program.

Previously, the LLI was a two-week program over spring break. The first week was on campus and the second in either Washington, D.C., or at the Highlander Center for Research and Education in Tennessee. Now, the second half of the program is incorporated into the participants' coursework.

Within the program, the Ethnography of Leadership in Organizations includes field studies in Washington, D.C. The course's professor, Susan Mason, is a consultant specializing in ethical and effective leadership and communication as well as an adjunct professor in Hamilton's Leadership Studies department. She has previously worked with the United Nations, J.P. Morgan, and the U.S. Department of Justice.

Those interested in the Highlander track must take another course in the Education Department taught by Professor Meredith Madden. Her research focuses include educational equity, structural inequalities in education, and ethnography.

Participants also work with various experts. Visiting professor Margo Okazawa-Rey, a founding member of the International Network of Women Against Militarism and the Institute for Multiracial Justice in San Francisco, conducted two workshops with LLI participants. On one of these days students traveled to Rome and Utica to meet with local leaders, including Mayor Robert Palmieri and Sonia Martinez who is the chair and founder of the Mohawk Valley Latino Association.

"Students conducted interviews to talk about how they view leadership and test out some of the subject matters from the LLI and their application in the leadership field," said Susan Mason, the director of the program. During the D.C. portion of the program, students also have the opportunity to meet with important figures, from NGO members to Congress members.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE/YANNIS MAKRIDIS '22

Participants in the 2019 Levitt Leadership program returned to campus before their peers for a week of study and field learning.

"The days were divided between team-building activities and leadership development," said Acacia Bowden '20, a student leader for the LLI. "Susan Mason taught the participants about communication styles and skills, empathy, managing versus leading, and mindfulness. Nicole Taylor '19, my co-leader, and I led the team-building activities that included an escape room, an egg drop contest, a logo/slogan competition, and a tower building competition."

Both program directors and student participants said they appreciate the many skills that the LLI teaches.

"The Levitt Leadership Institute taught me valuable leadership skills including knowing yourself, teamwork, communication skills, empathy, and problem-solving skills. I also learned how to host a formal reception and important networking skills," said Bowden.

Priebus and Messina announced as Common Ground speakers

by Duncan Freeman '22
Staff Writer

On Thursday, April 11, at 7:30 PM, Hamilton College will host the fourth iteration of its Common Ground series, featuring Reince Priebus and Jim Messina.

Priebus is the former head of the Republican National Committee (RNC). After Priebus' five-year tenure as the head of the RNC, he became then-president-elect Donald J. Trump's Chief of Staff in Nov. 2016. He would go on to have the shortest tenure of any White House Chief of Staff, resigning on July 31, 2017.

Messina was President Barack Obama's Deputy Chief of Staff from Dec. 2009 to Jan. 2011. Messina then became Obama's campaign manager for his successful 2012 reelection campaign. The campaign has been praised as "the best run campaign ever" by Google chairman Eric Schmidt because of Messina's innovative tactics with social media and mass texting. Since then, Messina has worked on parliamentary campaigns in England, Italy, and Spain. Notably, he worked on conservative campaigns in the United Kingdom, first with then-Prime Minister David Cameron in 2015 and then with current Prime Minister Theresa May in 2017.

April's event offers compelling storylines surrounding two career political operatives who often directly opposed each other in the political theater. Priebus has long criticized the Affordable Care Act and worked directly against its passage. In contrast, Messina was an integral part of the bill's creation and passage. Priebus is famous for being close friends with former Speaker of the House of Representatives Paul Ryan, who was Mitt Romney's running mate against Obama in 2012.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Priebus (left) and Messina (right) will take the stage on April 11 for the fourth iteration of the College's "Common Ground" series.

An issue where the two may come close to agreeing is immigration. After Romney's failed campaign in 2012, Priebus famously called for Republicans to embrace immigration reform to allow more pathways to citizenship for immigrants living in the U.S. illegally. He also called for them to change their messaging toward women, Hispanics, and young people in an effort to win the next election. This immigration policy is similar to the one that Obama pushed as president and Jim Messina advocated for as chair of Organizing for Action, an organization devoted to advocating for Obama's second term policies. Later, Priebus criticized Trump's rhetoric on immigration and other issues. Priebus was often a counter to other Trump staffers in the White House who had a more extreme immigration policy.

The first Common Ground program took place in October 2017 with Karl Rove and David Axelrod. Since then, this series has brought other notable names to the Hamilton campus to engage in dialogues in an attempt to find "common ground." The hope for these events is for "the speakers to model the kind of respectful dialogue across political boundaries that should occur not just on college campuses, but in the broader society as well," according to College President David Wippman.

Wippman adds that "hearing speakers we don't agree with allows us to find things we agree with them on but it also makes our arguments against them stronger and makes us better able to deal with them in the real world." He hopes students learn from this iteration of Common Ground and encourages all to attend.

Benjamin Rhind '19, who currently serves as Co-President of the Hamilton College Democrats, offered a harsh critique of the event and of both the speakers attending. Of Priebus, he said that "just because we're at a college that wants to create students who can engage with people on the other side of the aisle doesn't mean that any single person who has an opinion should be upheld as someone who should be taken seriously in a debate. Someone who has a track record of saying nothing but lies [...] you have to simply say to them you're not worth engaging with [...] We deserve speakers that have value and actual substantive ideas. Priebus has none of that."

Rhind views Messina as a centrist due to his work on conservative campaigns in England, and as someone not representative of today's liberal left. "If you're willing to offer this prime speaking position to speakers on the far right then the liberal representation can't be a centrist," he said. "Presenting this event like it's representing the entire political spectrum is a narrowing of the spectrum and it's a misrepresentation to say that it's finding 'common ground' between two opposite perspectives."

Letter to the Editor

Dear *Spectator* Editorial Board,

In a few weeks, Hamilton will hold a grand opening for a new café and lounge in the former Bundy Dining Hall, but we're planning a "soft opening" this Friday. The move will pilot a more convenient option for the more than 300 students who live on the East side of campus (Bundy East and West, Skenandoa, Wertimer, Wally J, 95 College Hill Road, 100 College Hill Road, and 1 Anderson Road) to grab food, have coffee, and gather informally. The new space will be available to all students and will be open seven days a week.

There are three distinct neighborhoods on campus. They can be defined geographically as the North, South and East sides of campus. In more than a dozen meetings, lunches, and conversations with many students, they said the shortcomings of living along College Hill Road made those residences, particularly Bundy, less desirable than the spaces on the North and South side of campus. In addition, there is an increase in students' desire for weekend programming without alcohol.

The new Bundy Cafe and Lounge is the first step toward enhancing the learning and living experience for students in Hamilton's East side neighborhood. The Because Hamilton capital campaign, which seeks to raise funds for the priorities identified in the College's recently adopted strategic plan, will allow us to make further improvements for students living on the East side of campus and across campus.

We recognize that converting Bundy Dining Hall from a space that can be reserved for social functions to a café and lounge reduces the number of locations available for student organizations to have parties. But data showed a drop in utilizing social spaces, Bundy in particular. Based on these data, and the input we received from students, we are confident we can provide an attractive café option and still meet the social space needs for student organizations. Student feedback continues to guide our planning. Please visit the new café when it opens and tell us what you think.

Sincerely,

Terry Martinez
Vice President and Dean of Students

The Spectator editorial represents the opinions of the majority of the editorial board. It is not necessarily unanimously agreed upon.

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Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

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1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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Celebrating 171 years, we were first published as The Radiator *in 1847.*

Letter to the Editor: MLK would not have been invited to Common Ground

Dear Editor,

The day after the Martin Luther King Day commemoration on campus, our email boxes were assailed with news of the latest episode of the Common Ground saga scheduled for March. On this occasion, the event will star Reince Priebus (Republican) and Jim Messina (Democrat).

The whole notion of Common Ground is becoming more and more perplexing, given the state of the nation and the more major urgencies on the list of national items than staging mild "civil" contestations between former political officials of the Republicans and Democrats, especially when at least three of the episodes thus far have been so identical in the choice of presenter and theme as to render this fourth episode even more meaningless. What is the essential difference between the Rove and Axelrod tango, the Dubke and Elias parry, and this new Priebus and Messina tussle? Less salad dressing?

In the particular case of Reince Priebus, the question is: Will he be truthful in an environment where truth is still, supposedly, held in high regard? Will he, as a former chief of staff, offer a critique of the President's documented lies on every conceivable issue? Will he find a modicum of contrition for his role in promulgating and buttressing, and then working for the most openly racist and sexist president in modern U.S. history? Very unlikely. For his part, Messina will invoke the "we are the nice guys" mantra. The outcome of the whole episode will only be a tick in the box for the college: "we successfully staged another Common Ground." This is what Sara Ahmed, in her book *On Being Included*, calls the "manufacture of cohesion."

As the announcement of the upcoming event fell near MLK day, it might be useful to draw parallels between King's experience and the current situation in the U.S. in the light of Common Ground.

For starters, if we transpose time and context, King would not have fit the bill for an invitation to a Common Ground event. In the period before his assassination, King was being assailed from all sides for going too far in expanding his civil rights activism. As he railed against the "giant triplets of racism, extreme materialism and militarism" elements in the NAACP cautioned him; the white church, for the most part, detested most of his actions (see King's "Letter from a Montgomery Jail"); and civil rights moderates tried to temper him: "We are already succeeding, Martin; why talk about the Vietnam War and labour conditions?" This was the mantra back then. Meanwhile, the FBI carried on its merry work of surveillance and repression of King. By 1968, his disapproval rating hovered at over 70%.

In essence, it is the folks who were warning King against getting into labor disputes and his anti-Vietnam war stand who would be invited to a Hamilton Common Ground event today. The gradualist approach of King's rivals and colleagues would be invoked as "civil discourse."

It is now common knowledge that King was ahead of his time. Even the references to King's "dream" are out of context, along with the dreamy, impractical endeavors of various savants that continue to allow travesties of justice to run amok. By 1968, King's dream had faded substantially. He was increasingly isolated. After his assassination and for the 50 years since the safe labelling of his legacy continues to hone in on the "dream" rather than of the man's courage in standing outside of, and against, the suffocating embrace of the mainstream. And colleges, including Hamilton, love that safe "middle" ground.

But back to the "Common Ground" of the moment. This criticism is not a call for uncivil discourse, but a demand for civil discourse that is grounded in openness and honesty on the many problems we face, and that propels us to action, not lulls us with banal and comforting pleasantries.

The money utilized for this ongoing charade could be better spent elsewhere. What we need now is a "common wind" of change, a force that is activated not by a desire to please all "sides" on issues where truth stares us in the face, but one that propels us into taking positive action in defense of truth and justice.

I also noticed that in the latest advertisement, as against past headline notifications, "Common Ground" is placed in quotation marks. Is this a tacit concession or a subliminal recognition that the concept of common ground is a delusion? Perhaps there will be a further shift in the fifth round of speakers, to the more accurate "uncommon ground" with all its implicit and challenging ambiguities.

Yours Sincerely,
Nigel Westmaas

The Annual Jancoming: an open letter to new arrivals on campus

by Drew Anderson '21
Opinion Contributor

It's weird starting at Hamilton in January. The Hill is empty, save for some sports teams and the handful of students you bump into at Commons. The deep snow of the Central New York winter welcomes January Admittances as they haul their belongings to their dorms, the first rite of passage of the arrival — finally — to college.

Everything about arriving on the Hill for the first time is a surprising experience. Hamilton doesn't feel the way it did when you visited in the fall of your senior year in high school, nor like during August orientation. This isn't just a visit: this is your new home for half a year.

The Jan orientation leaders who greet Jans in Sadove on the first day of orientation are a reminder to Jans of all the reasons why they picked Hamilton College: the tight knit community, the small campus.

But despite the best efforts of the Jan orientation team, it takes time to make Hamilton your home. No matter how welcoming the community, how open you are to making new friends, and how much you're willing to put yourself out there to join clubs and get to know people, joining the Hill in January is a process.

As every Hamilton student experiences, it takes time learning your way around the school, adopting a new schedule, finding good study spaces, and making time to go out, but also to take care of yourself. It can be gruelling.

The first few months of school are vital for developing friendships, building relationships, and starting your Hamilton career off "on the right foot." When so few other students are in that mindset the pressure certainly feels high.

This process is especially hard for Jans because they are part of such a small group of students — about 50 Jans and transfers — who join the Hill in January every year. The rest of the student population has spent a minimum of one semester at Hamilton.

When you join a community of people with so much more experience, even in benign skills such as where and when to eat, which professors are helpful in office hours, what study spaces to work in, and what to do on weekends, it's easy to feel behind the curve.

Despite the wisdom passed on to me from the Jan orientation team, I remember still feeling an urgency to fit in on the Hill. All of that age-old, Hamilton-sponsored advice to "be who you are" and "do what you love" gets thrown out the window when you're trying to make friends and just feel settled at college.

I craved social comfortability my first semester here. I just wanted a group of people on whom I could rely. If I learned anything from my first semester on the Hill, it's that I made friends through classes and clubs. It was through shared experiences, like living in Wertimer or not going out on the weekend. I learned that you don't need to spend all your time around others to be happy.

When it feels like everyone knows their way around, has a close group of friends, or has built a good reputation on the Hill, remember that it didn't happen quickly for them. When you show up here in January and there are only 50 other new students going through the same thing, it's too easy to feel like you're running behind schedule.

Don't expect to just fit in at Hamilton. It takes time to find your place on the Hill, but there is a place for everyone. Don't try to fit in; pursue what you love, or what you think you love. Most people change interests and passions many times before they find the people, groups, and departments that they like being around. The Hamilton website is not lying when it promises that on the Hill you can "Study What You Love" and "Be Who You Are." But they don't say much about that being a process of trial and error.

Jans learn to take their time on the Hill. Maybe you call Commons "The Soper Commons," or use the worst shower on your floor with the lowest water pressure for months. You might not get that club position you wanted, or you may get waitlisted in the most interesting class. There are things on the Hill that you can't control, but there are the things you can. You can keep on applying for that e-Board position, keep on heading to the Writing Center for that glorious A, and keep on heading to that professor's office hours to get to know them better.

Accept the things that take some time to work out, work on the things that you can, and at the end of your first semester you'll probably know the difference.

Most Jans wouldn't trade their experience to start in August at another college. I know I picked Hamilton despite "starting late," and I wouldn't trade it for someone else's experience. Being a Jan takes some work, putting yourself out there when most others have had a semester to do so. But this community has made the Jan experience possible for many years. As long as students are willing to take an unconventional path to get on the Hill, the Jan program will live on.

An egregious and irrational political decision: Trump's transgender military ban

by Allie Duggan '20
Opinion Contributor

In July 2017, President Trump made yet another controversial statement via Twitter, this time arguing that transgender individuals should not be allowed to serve openly in the Army. He wrote, "Our military must be focused on decisive and overwhelming... victory and cannot be burdened with the tremendous medical costs and disruption that transgender in the military would entail." The following month, the White House announced a policy that would effectively reverse the steps taken by the Obama administration to undo the long-standing ban on openly transgender individuals serving in the military. The policy banning transgender men and women from the military was set to go into effect in March 2018, but was held up by federal courts that believed trans service members who challenged the policy were likely to prevail in court.

As a result, starting on Jan. 1, 2018, openly trans men and women were able to join the military. Additionally, the military had even begun paying for some trans-inclusive medical services, including gender-affirming surgeries.

However, on March 23, 2018, the White House issued a new version of this ban endorsed by Defense Secretary James Mattis entitled, "Department of Defense Report and Recommendations on Military Service by Transgender Persons" (also known as the "Implementation Report.") The Implementation Report declared that, "transgender persons with a history or diagnosis of gender dysphoria — individuals who the policies state may require substantial medical treatment, including medications and surgery — are disqualified from military service except under certain limited circumstances."

This ban would effectively forbid openly trans individuals from serving in the military with the exception of those who began serving prior to the memo and those who have been "stable for 36 consecutive months in their biological sex prior to accession." Initially, this second attempt at the ban was again stopped by lower courts. However, on Tuesday, January 22, the Supreme Court lifted all but one injunction.

This inhumane restriction of service could lead to severe consequences for the trans community. They may face more abuse, be unfairly discharged from military service, and have their personal health and safety endangered. The decision will also serve as another signal from our government that the trans community is not tolerated — much less accepted.

Unsurprisingly, the rationale behind this ban is baseless. According to *Vox*, evidence presented by countries such as Israel, the United Kingdom, and Canada shows that allowing trans individuals openly serve "poses minimal to no costs to the military's budget or readiness."

It is important to understand that the ban against trans soldiers is different than the "Don't ask, don't tell" policy instituted in 1994. The history of banning trans individuals is a result of medical regulations that allowed commanders to dismiss trans troops at will. The Palm Center published a report entitled, "DoD's Rationale for Reinstating the Transgender Ban Is Contradicted by Evidence," and posited that the original trans ban was based on medical rationale that is outdated and incorrect. The report states that the case for reinstating the ban is "contradicted by ample evidence clearly demonstrating that transition-related care is effective, that transgender personnel diagnosed with gender dysphoria are deployable and medically fit, that inclusive policy has not compromised cohesion and instead promotes readiness, and that the financial costs of inclusion are not high."

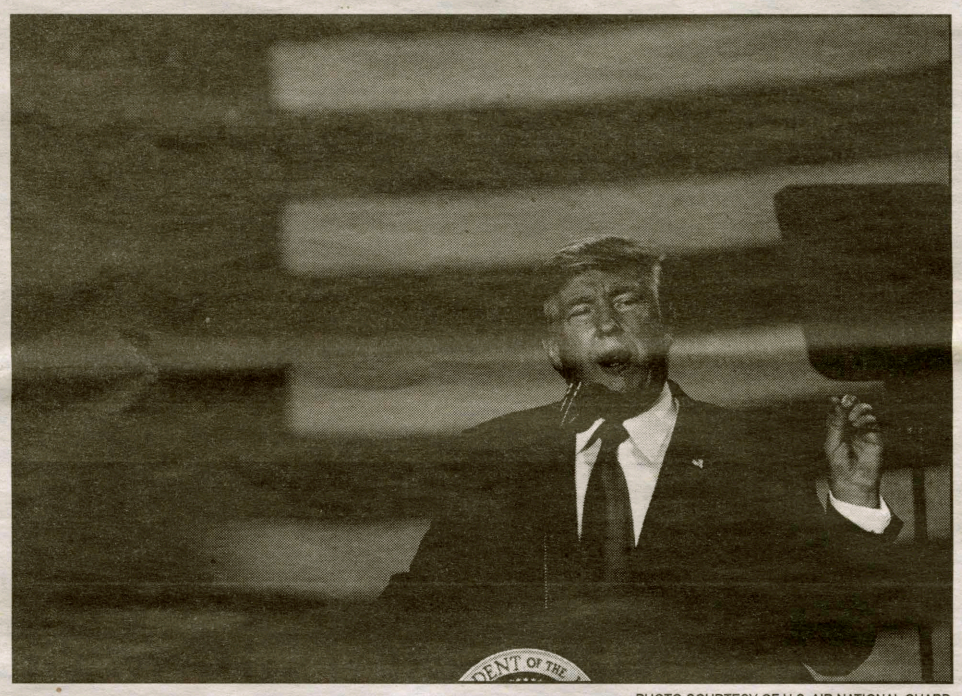


PHOTO COURTESY OF U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Trump's Implementation Report also argued that gender dysphoria — defined by *Psychology Today* as "strong, persistent feelings of identification with the opposite gender and discomfort with one's own assigned sex that results in significant distress or impairment" — would interfere with an individual's service because it can lead to psychological conditions such as severe depression and anxiety. The American Psychological Association responded by stating "substantial psychological research shows that gender dysphoria is a treatable condition, and does not, by itself, limit the ability of individuals to function well and excel in their work, including in military service." By enforcing this ban, many trans individuals are forced into hiding, leading to horrible conditions.

In January 2017, *Vox* journalist German Lopez interviewed the soon-to-be retired transgender soldier Shane Ortega, who served in both Iraq and Afghanistan while in the Marines and Army. Ortega had this to say about being transgender and serving in the military: "Think about being an American spy in Russia and how difficult that would be, you have to be perfect in every sense of the word. You have to always question people around you. You can never relax. You have to always think ahead. And you have to always be observant and aware of yourself and your surroundings." This kind of distrust in your surroundings and emotional stress due to the lack of understanding and acceptance is especially difficult in the military, which relies and thrives on the trust between soldiers.

It is on this basis of acceptance and factual evidence that the Obama administration moved to remove this ban in 2016. Expectedly, the Trump administration is both unconcerned and unaware of the facts behind President Trump's tweets which state that trans serving in the United States military would affect its readiness and cost.

The RAND Corporation released a study in 2016 entitled, "Assessing the Implications of Allowing Transgender Personnel to Serve Openly," addressing accusations like the ones made by Trump and his administration and their authenticity.

Based on RAND's estimations, trans troops make up around 2,450 of the 1.3 million active-component service members. The think tank estimated, based on survey data and private health insurance claims, that only 29-to-129 service members in the active component will seek transition-related care that could disrupt their ability to deploy yearly. Thus, the "readiness impact of transition-related treatment would lead to a loss of less than 0.0015 percent of total available labor-years in the active component." Consequently, it is estimated that the cost of covering care for transgender personnel would only increase the active-component health costs by between $2.4 and $8.4 million, representing a 0.04 percent to 0.13 percent increase in active-component health care expenditures.

This small cost does not mean much in terms of budget, but it means a great deal to the transgender community. Both the American Medical Association and American Psychiatric Association explain that gender transitioning helps reduce gender dysphoria. Transitioning could therefore lead to fewer mental health issues for trans people in service.

Unfortunately, Trump's comments were damaging and rash. According to a report from Rachel Bade and Josh Dawsey at *Politico*, conservative Republicans in the House approached then-Secretary of Defense Mattis to immediately ban Pentagon payments for gender-affirming surgeries. When Mattis refused to act quickly, the same Republicans approached President Trump directly with the same request. President Trump immediately acquiesced. He went so far as to ban trans from the military in totality. The president tweeted out his new policy ideas so quickly that the military itself was not notified about the policy change prior to the tweets, and the White House took two weeks following the tweets to send out an official guidance securing the change.

President Trump's factually wrong, ill-considered, and fundamentally inhumane bans on transgenders in the military is just another reminder to the trans community that they are unaccepted in society. The president claims to love America and the American people, yet cowers in the corner of his office as he tweets policies to the nation that directly affect the lives of American citizens. Trans individuals are Americans, yet he demeans them. He attacks them personally. He forbids them from voluntarily fighting for this country based on "facts" that have no evidence.

Look at our nation's pledge of allegiance: we pledge "justice for all" not "justice for some." Justice means fairness, lack of prejudice, open-mindedness. Men and women are standing up on the front lines making sure this nation is safe. Similarly, some are willing to hide their truths to continue fighting for this nation despite the fact that they are not seen as equal. President Trump purports "Make America Great Again" as if those trans who serve in our military are not.

Alexandra Billings, a star of Amazon's *Transparent* and the first transgender woman to play a transgender character on television, put it best in her address to the president: "I learned a long time ago that holding on to hatred only leaves me hating those who do not care. So I release it. And I release you, Mr. Trump. You, personally, don't matter. It is what you are trying to do that I will spend my energy fighting. We will not rest until you are defeated. And we know how to do this. For this time, we are wide awake. You see, Mr. Trump, we know you. And we see you. We always have." Mr. President, we will see you at the ballot box.

Bachelor & Bachelorette

Melanie Geller '22

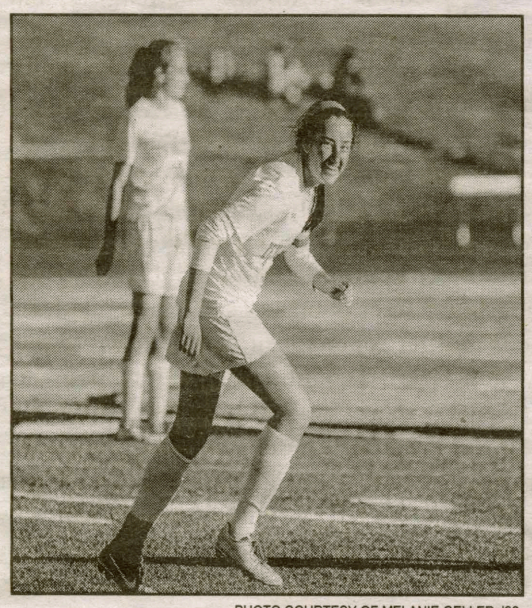


PHOTO COURTESY OF MELANIE GELLER '22

Hometown: *Irvington, N.Y.*
Home on Campus: *South.*
Major: *Government.*
Turn on? *"Wanna go eat now?"*
Turn off? *"Country music is gross."*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Bruce Springsteen and Carrie Underwood, because when I was in the womb my mother took me to a Bruce Springsteen concert and felt his powerhouse pipes in the amniotic sac. Carrie Underwood because I, too, have dug my key into the side.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *Snap! Crackle! Pop!*
What's your type? *Soaked and absorbed with almond milk, like my overnight oats.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Coffee, cereal, and SNL*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *The gym, specifically the treadmill.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *The Buffers.*
What's your patronus and why? *Yoshi on a motorbike. Rainbow Road is my best level.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *I would wear my running shoes OUTSIDE the gym. Then walk right into the gym.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Free laundry services.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Green turtle shells that hit you in Mario Kart.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *My roommate. Not saying which one. (It's you Jin).*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Shelley Haley. No one talks about Latin with more contagious passion.*
What would your perfect date be? *A Rangers game where they don't choke in the last 2 minutes.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *A drawer scattered with one of my roommate's toenails.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *Overnight oats. Complex yet simple. Aged. Wack looking but solid quality.*

John Thomsen '19

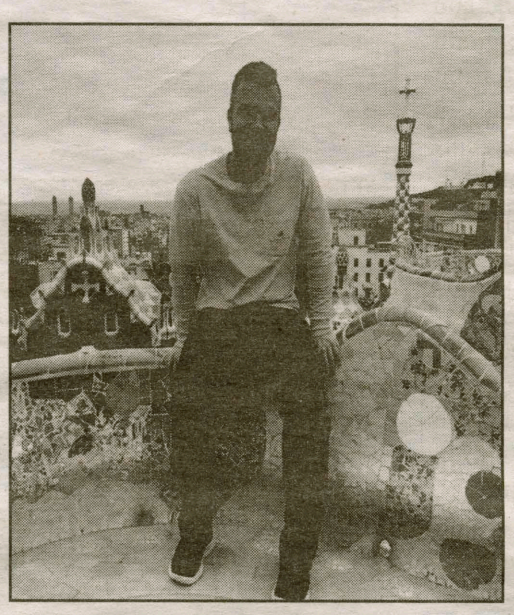


PHOTO COURTESY OFJOHN THOMSEN '19

Hometown: *Newton, M.A.*
Home on Campus: *95 College Hill Road.*
Major: *Classical Languages.*
Turn on? *Smelling good.*
Turn off? *Bad breath.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Sken because it's air-conditioned.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *Energizer's "Keep going and going..."*
What TV genre best describes you? *Reality TV.*
What's your type? *No type – Just know it when I see it.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *My bed, my phone, The Patriots.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *The Hub.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *My bed.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *The hockey team. Even though I've never played hockey and can barely skate.*
What's your patronus and why? *Polar bear, because I also live in the Arctic here...*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Parking ANYWHERE.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *McEwen.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Parking.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Nice try :).*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Ines Corujo-Martin.*
What would your perfect date be? *Smoothies on the beach.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *Six foot lava lamp.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *A burger, because I'm thick and juicy.*
Lights on or lights off? *Off...*
Favorite campus study spot? *Couper. 100% underrated.*
What's the last lie you told? *That I have a 6' lava lamp in my room.*
What was your first thought this morning? *Shut the f*** up, alarm.*
What's the meaning of life? *Happiness.*
Which member of Disney royalty are you? *Prince Charming.*

Get outside this winter, while you still can

by Peter Case '21
Editorial Editor

IMAGE COURTESY OF CASPIAN NEWS

In the days after Christmas and before New Years, I traveled with my family up to Pinkham Notch in New Hampshire. A prominent point of access for Mount Washington's striking and dramatic ravines, it draws thousands of outdoor enthusiasts to the region every winter to go skiing. We stayed in the Joe Dodge Lodge, a hostel owned and operated by the Appalachian Mountain Club and conveniently located in front of the trailhead up to the ravines, a comfortable four miles from the summit of Mt. Washington. Mt. Washington is the tallest mountain on the Eastern Seaboard at 6,288 ft, and as such, the peak serves as a sail, catching all of the wind that blows east of the Rockies. This wind slams into the peak at speeds up to 231 mph, which is now the second-fastest wind speed ever recorded on earth, and causes temperatures to drop to -36 degrees Fahrenheit. Winters in Mt. Washington are notoriously brutal, leading many first-rate mountaineers to train for ascents on Denali and Everest on the relatively small peak. The soul-crushing cold and gusting wind makes for more realistic practice conditions than the higher, more temperate western mountains.

However, when I hiked the four miles to the top of Mt. Washington with my father and sister, the ambient temperature was a balmy 20 degrees Fahrenheit with a comfortable wind chill of 2 degrees. On the second day of our trip, my mother joined us for some moderate backcountry skiing. Over the course of the day, the snow turned to rain as the temperature rose. According to the staff at Joe Dodge Lodge, the weather had been getting more erratic, with huge snow dumps in mid-autumn and periods of wild temperature fluctuation.

When I packed the car three weeks later to go backcountry skiing and ice climbing in the Adirondack region of upstate New York, I filled my bag with extra coats and pairs of gloves, even packing a stove despite the fact that we were not planning on spending a night out in the wilderness. The first day, we were sweating through our layers and had to strip down continuously. The second day, we ice climbed a route in Chapel Pond Canyon in -7 degree weather. Within a month, I had experienced a massive breadth of weather conditions in two similar regions, and sadly, my experience was not the result of some fluke wind currents.

Outdoor winter recreation is in an uneasy place right now. As weather grows increasingly less predictable due to climate change and increasing greenhouse gas emissions, so does the future of skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, and any other activity that requires consistent cold temperatures to be feasible. A 2012 study published by the National Resources Defense Council and Save Our Winters estimated a $12.2 billion dollar winter tourism industry, a number that has almost certainly risen. Researchers in Colorado recently published a study that analyzed 300,000 years of climate models and came to the conclusion that if greenhouse emissions remain unchecked, ski resorts will lose up to 80 percent of their seasons by 2090. The magnificent glaciers of Glacier National Park in Montana are projected to vanish by 2050. In the 1980s, ice climbing was consistent in Utah from Thanksgiving to Easter. Now the norm has shifted to Christmas through President's Day. If nothing is done about our deteriorating climate, winters will continue to shorten, snowfalls will be less consistent, ice will not form, and opportunities in the outdoors will diminish.

Hamilton College is located just two hours south of the largest state park in the United States, and one of the premier winter recreation sites in North America. The ice is fat, the skiing is tough and gnarly, the hikes are beautiful and challenging, and the people who stick it out through the winter are some of the kindest and most accommodating tough nuts you will ever meet. We are right on the edge of a pristine wilderness, and have incredible (and free) access to top notch gear and outdoor opportunities through the Hamilton Outing Club. We also have acres upon acres of beautiful glens that are open for snowshoers, winter bikers, cross country skiers, and those who just want a walk to get them through class that afternoon. We also have a brand new, groomed cross country ski course.

As of right now, the winters are still going strong, but to keep them around we need to take steps to decrease our environmental impact. For more information, please reach out to the Hamilton Sustainability Coordinators at hsc@hamilton.edu. For more in-depth reading on the subject, visit https://www.hcn.org/issues/50.8/recreation-your-stoke-wont-save-us , https://www.hcn.org/articles/opinion-actually-i-think-stoke-will-save-us , https://www.powder.com/stories/climate-change/climate-change-study-2090/ , https://rockandice.com/snowball/climate-and-climbers/.

What's coming to Netflix in February

by Claire Goldstein '22
Features Editor

IMAGE COURTESY OF NETFLIX

Winter in Central New York is brutal. If all you want to do is lay in bed, eat some snacks, and watch Netflix, you are in luck. This February, Netflix is adding a ton of new content. New Netflix originals, cable TV shows, and box office movies are all on the list to be added in the month of February. Here are some movies and shows to look out for:

1. The Umbrella Academy

This highly anticipated superhero/sci-fi show (pictured above) is based off of the comic book with the same name by Gerard Way. Netflix describes it as "A dysfunctional family of superheroes comes together to solve the mystery of their father's death, the threat of the apocalypse, and more." It looks like it is going to be the perfect mix of action, drama, and comedy, the binge watching trifecta. Start your mid winter binge on February 15.

2. Patriot Act with Hasan Minhaj, volume 2

Volume one of Hasan Minhaj's political satire show premiered in October of 2018 and was extremely well received. The goal to "explore the modern cultural and political landscape with depth and sincerity" has a 100% approval rating on Rotten Tomatoes. Hasan Minhaj does an amazing job at teaching his audience while also being extremely entertaining. Season 2 premieres February 10.

3. Kevin Hart's Guide to Black History

Originally a special for the History Channel, *Kevin Hart's Guide to Black History* is a two-hour special exploring lesser-known moments in black history while still being funny and educational. Hart uses scripted reenactments, similar to *Drunk History* on Comedy Central, to teach his daughter about influential people in black history. You can watch *Kevin Hart's Guide to Black History* on February 8.

4. Dating Around

This Netflix original is a reality dating show that looks so cheesy, it will probably be your next guilty pleasure. Netflix's description of the show says "In each episode of filtrations and fails, one real-life single navigates five blind dates. The mission: find one match worthy of a second date." Like *The Bachelor* but more awkward, and easier to binge. *Dating Around* comes to Netflix on February 14.

5. All of the Jaws movies

I know what you're thinking: "why include the *Jaws* movies on the list with new, exciting shows"? Well, *Jaws* is the best way to remember how thankful you should be that you go to school in the cold. Sure, there are beautiful beaches and tan actors in warmer climates, but there are also killer sharks. Personally, I would much rather bear the cold for a couple months than be a tasty snack to a man-eating beast. The *Jaws* movies will be added on February 1.

Winter Storm Harper:
Students encounter difficulty returning to campus

by Cliff Musial '21
Features Editor

On the weekend of Jan. 18 to Jan. 20, all 48 of the contiguous United States felt the effects of Winter Storm Harper, which hit hardest in the northern states. Upstate New York felt some of the greatest effects of the storm, with snowfall from one-to-two feet throughout the state. The weekend of the storm, however, also happened to be the weekend that most Hamilton students were set to return from winter break. The College took measures to help students return safely — opening dorms on the morning of Saturday instead of Sunday and moving the shuttle busses from New York City and Boston that Sunday to the following Monday.

However, with thousands of cancelled flights and trains, and shoddy road conditions across the country, many students had great difficulty returning to campus on time. Others were unable to and missed classes last week. *The Spectator* talked with some of these students to hear about their experiences over that very problematic weekend.

Jay Carhart '21 drove from New York City in a Chevy Cruze and faced the height of the blizzard on Saturday night. Interstate Route 87, normally an important leg of the NYC to Hamilton route, proved to be treacherous on Saturday night while the storm bombarded drivers with snow. "I fishtailed like three times driving up, and once had to regain control of my car after almost ramming into an exit barrier. I then got stuck behind a Honda Accord for an hour and a half, which I couldn't pass because I would have driven into a snowbank while trying to go around them. When I finally arrived, I got stuck two-thirds of the way up the G-road driveway and had to sweep around my car just to get it up to the parking lot."

IMAGE COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

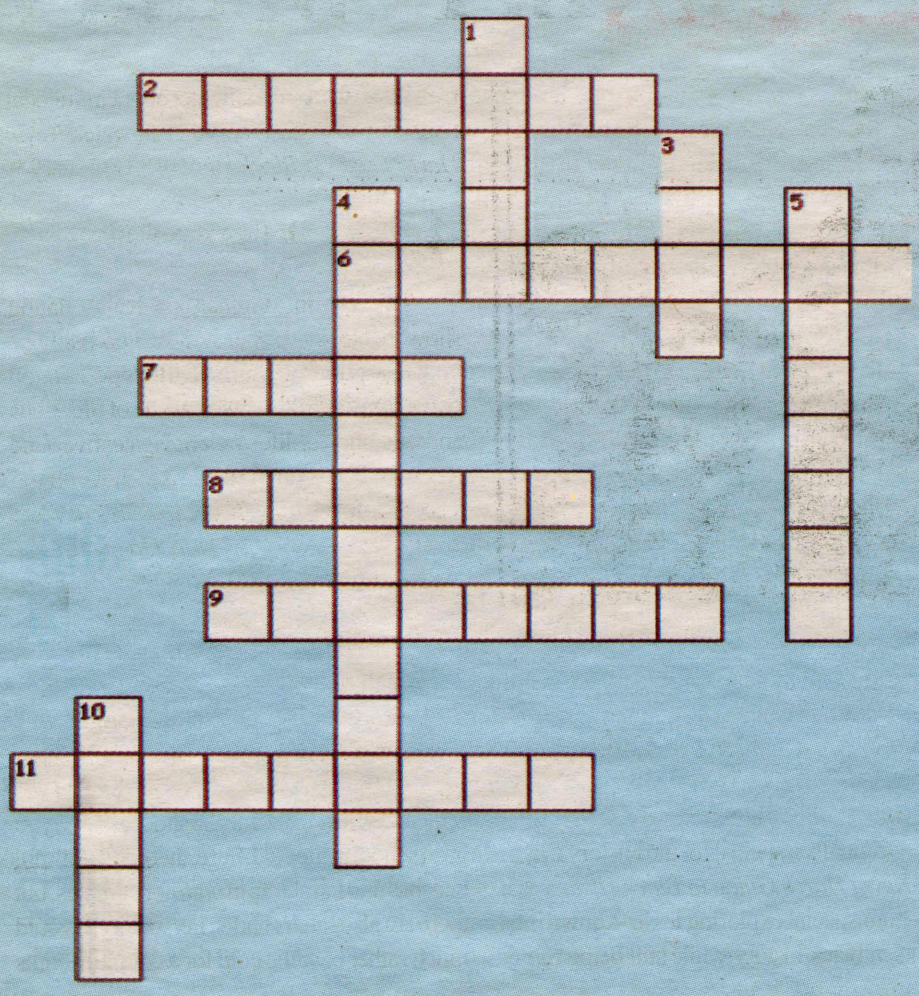
Thousands of flights were canceled or delayed last weekend due to the severity of the storm

Christopher Mailman '21 had similar difficulty early Saturday, even before the worst of the blizzard arrived. As the snow began in Central New York around noon, Chris had a hard time driving through Utica. "I was driving down a side street, and when I rolled up to a stop sign, my car didn't stop. I slammed on my brakes, but the car kept sliding into the intersection. Luckily, I didn't run into any other cars — I was just glad my car and I were both alright!"

Though the roads were certainly bad for individual cars, those students who use public transport were far from exempt from troubles. Amtrak cancelled all of its trains operating in the Eastern United States on Saturday, Jan. 19, leaving students to frantically rework their plans on Thursday night when the announcement was made. Unfortunately for those who planned take the overnight Lake Shore Limited line from Chicago to New York, the only options to reschedule were for the nights of Friday, Jan. 18, and Monday, Jan. 20, as the Sunday night train was sold out. Taking the Friday train meant leaving the next night, and taking the Monday train meant missing classes for the better part of Tuesday, the first day of class. Andrew Projanski '21, among others, opted to move to the Friday night train to get back in time for class. Luckily for Amtrak riders, the college was very proactive, opening dorms on Saturday to meet the changing plans of students taking all modes of transportation.

The storm perhaps most affected those who commute by air as thousands of flights were cancelled in the East on Saturday, while even more were cancelled across the country. As everyone who has flown knows all too well, it is notoriously difficult to work with airline companies on rescheduling flights. Some students could not return for the entire first week, while others arrived back intermittently throughout the week.

The start of the 2019 spring semester fell on a very unfortunate weekend, but between involvement from the College and the considerations made by many professors, the students affected seem to have (mostly) been able to regain their balance and start off the semester on the right boot. As a polar vortex torpedoes temperatures in the Upper Midwest to record lows this weekend (while certainly not neglecting to give Central New York its share of the action!) it is best to keep in mind how difficult such weather makes traveling — be flexible, plan ahead, and be safe in this harsh winter!



The Wide World
A Crossword Puzzle

Living on the Hill can seem like a small world, but we are part of a far bigger one beyond our campus. How much do you know about the world outside of Hamilton?

Across
2. Slavic city where some would say WW1 started
6. Famous London square named after an 1805 battle
7. Far Western province of China, near the Himalayan Mountains
8. NY county in which Hamilton is located
9. Island nation off Australia's Southern coast
11. Northern Mexican city and capital of the state of Nuevo Leon

Down
1. Islamic pilgrimage destination in Saudi Arabia
3. Capital of Norway
4. Russian city formerly known as Leningrad
5. Capital of Chile
10. Africa's second largest river, the namesake of a Democratic Republic

Answers: 1: Mecca, 2: Sarajevo, 3: Oslo, 4: St. Petersburg, 5: Santiago, 6: Trafalgar, 7: Tibet, 8: Oneida, 9: Tasmania, 10: Congo, 11: Monterrey

Disability in film: *Bird Box*, *A Quiet Place*, and *Hush*

by Kyandreia Jones '19
Staff Writer

On Thursday, Dec. 13, Netflix released director Susanne Bier's *Bird Box* (2018), a psychological thriller about a mysterious entity that takes the form of one's greatest fears, causing victims to take their own lives in an effort to escape what haunts them. Despite the tragic premise, the film became an internet sensation, inspiring many hilarious memes and videos centered around the questions of: What if we had to sacrifice our sight in order to survive? What does it mean to look at life through fabric? Naturally, people took the film's concept too far, some driving, running and, hand holding children with blindfolds.

The "Bird Box Challenge" sparked controversy, but the film itself invites viewers to reconsider the relationship between disability and the environment. In the film, sight is a disadvantage, as the creatures rely on their victims' ability to see them. *Bird Box* is one example of recent films that engage with the idea of the differently abled.

Director John Krasinski's *A Quiet Place* (2018) and Director Mike Flanagan's *Hush* (2016) also allow viewers to consider how disability is portrayed in film. By putting a character's disability in tension with the environment, these films show the ways in which the differently abled suffer or survive in high intensity situations such as a post-apocalyptic future in *Bird Box* and *A Quiet Place* or a masked killer in *Hush*.

Although these films seem to use disability as a plot device, they also respect the limitations and strengths unique to the differently abled. Like most thrillers, these films ask the viewer to reconsider the idea of "normal." Certain unusual circumstances (i.e. mysterious creatures or ruthless killers) disorient the viewer as the main characters must deal with forces that do not typically plague the average person. However, unlike most thrillers, the focus on a particular sense, whether it's sight in *Bird Box* or hearing in *A Quiet Place* and *Hush*, demand that viewers also reconsider the definition of disabled people. The term "disabled" tends to focus on a certain limitation rather than on difference. The films explore the limitations of the differently abled protagonists within them, but they also highlight the strengths of these protagonists. This nuanced treatment of ability is possible because the respective environments already force a new normal on its inhabitants.

For example, similar to the function of blindness in *Bird Box*, Krasinski's *A Quiet Place* reveals the way in which deafness can be helpful in a world where sightless creatures attack sound. In the film, the Abbott family struggles to survive as these creatures disrupt their family dynamic and terrorize their world. Though they are often unable to speak to each other, the family is able to communicate because the oldest child, Regan Abbott (Millicent Simmonds) is deaf. Sign language has been common in their household, giving the Abbots a unique advantage. Other families would instinctively whisper or resort to silence if they had to abandon their usual way of communicating. It is important to note that Regan's inability to hear initially causes tension in her family. She does not know when she's making a noise that could be fatal to herself or to her family. She seems redeemed by the fact that she plays such a huge role in protecting her family, supporting the idea that she is not a liability but an asset to her loved ones. Regan's deafness is not only a strength for herself but for her family, as well. Regan's hearing aid becomes a tool to combat these creatures who have a sensitivity to sound, later acting as the only known weapon against them.

In *Hush*, deaf writer Madison Young (Kate Siegel) must only save herself from the threat of a masked killer (John Gallagher Jr.). Unlike Regan who takes on terrifying creatures with her family, Madison braves the killer alone. Worse, her inability to hear her neighbor's frantic pleas excite the killer who quickly realizes that Madison is unlike any of his past victims. He toys with her because he believes that she will be an interesting and challenging target. In a long, arduous game of cat and mouse, Madison proves a formidable opponent as her life hangs in the balance. Granted, her writing also plays a significant role in her understanding of the possible favorable outcomes. She mentally breaks down her strengthens and weaknesses, and uses this process to plan her every move, taking into account how her inability to hear could be perceived. For example, she uses the killer's ability to hear to her advantage, distracting and stunning him with loud noises to aid in her survival. She relies on his limited understanding of what she is capable of, gaining the upper hand from his ignorance. Ultimately, this saves her from a death that had befallen countless victims before her. The film suggests that Madison's unique position in life gives her an advantage that the other victims did not have and saves her from meeting the same unfortunate end. This film gives viewers a chance to see how a deaf woman bests a sighted man, beating the odds against her disability and gender.

PHOTO COURTESTY OF POLYGON

Netflix's *Bird Box* sparked a controversial online challenge.

In *Bird Box*, Malorie (Sandra Bullock) is not differently abled in a traditional sense as Regan and Madison are. However, sight functions as a disability because seeing the mysterious creatures leads to death. Thus, Malorie must operate a new, treacherous landscape without a sense on which she has always depended. In order to survive or feign some sense of normalcy, she must live blindfolded. This is ironic because, in today's society, our surroundings favor those who can see. Therefore, it is difficult for the blind to successfully navigate everyday life without assistance. However, in this film, it is those with sight who remain helpless and vulnerable because sight is a threat to their survival. Blindness becomes a crucial asset in existing within this apocalypse. Thus, the main characters black out windows and blindfold themselves to stay alive. Life won't be easy, but surely it is possible to adapt and to feel out this new existence?

When one of the occupants, pregnant Olympia (Danielle Macdonald), allows stranger Gary (Tom Hollander) into their safe haven, viewers find out that the danger refuses to be kept outside and in the dark. The existence of Gary contradicts those who may have thought that they could survive life blindfolded because his mental illness protects him from getting killed by the creatures. Therefore, humans without mental disabilities must now consider the fact that there are members of the community who will gladly force sight upon not only those who can see but those free from mental illness and mental disorders as well. As with Regan and Madison's deafness, Malorie must constantly confront how her sight puts her at risk. Again, it appears that only the truly blind are capable of living with a degree of normalcy. In this reality, the blind are victors of their environment and their circumstance. They are not as vulnerable as their sighted counterparts. The film reinforces the blind's being differently abled rather than disabled when Malorie, and the two children accompanying her (one hers and the other Olympia's), finds shelter in a former school for the blind where most of the community cannot see.

Though it is easy to get distracted by the blindfolds in the film, it is important to recognize that the blindfolds do not represent true blindness and security. The community of blind people fulfill this role. Blindfolds can easily be taken off or dropped, and when that happens those once blindfolded can only shut their eyes and hope. The truly blind are able to laugh and play and live almost exactly as they have done in a place devised to honor their difference and in a world forced to see value in that difference.

In addition to being full of tension, powerful storytelling and strong female protagonists, these films demonstrate that we should be more considerate to those differently abled from ourselves, especially because a sudden change in our environment can put us at the disadvantage. The films also teach us to recognize the richness in difference, as the differently abled inspire us to re-evaluate our dependence on certain senses, and to reconsider our discomfort in having to negotiate a new normal. Hopefully, it will not take such dramatic conditions for us to empathize with one another and to construct a world in which we can all live to our fullest. I would love to see more films like *Hush*, *A Quiet Place* or *Bird Box* because they offer a complex yet interesting perspective on interpreting disability on the big and small screen.

PHOTO COURTESTY OF BUSINESS INSIDER

John Krasinski, perhaps best known for his role in NBC's *The Office*, directed and stars in *A Quiet Place* (2018).

Reflection: Special K performs at Radio City Music Hall

by Josie Blatt '21
A&E Editor

Special K, Hamilton College's oldest all women's a cappella group, opened for the Radio City Rockettes' Christmas Spectacular on Sunday, Dec. 16 before the 8 PM show. We performed a medley of three Christmas classics: "Winter Wonderland," "I'll Be Home for Christmas," and "O, Holy Night."

Last August, a representative from Radio City Music Hall reached out to Special K and asked us if we would like to participate in their Sounds of Christmas program. This program allows a cappella groups and choirs to sing on stage before the Rockettes' performance. We enthusiastically accepted the opportunity to perform in the iconic 6,015 seat space (the world's largest indoor theater.)

When tasked to choose what to sing for Special K's largest audience ever, Special K's team of music directors Laura Boyman '20, Sara Jadbabaie '21, and I decided to build on an existing arrangement of "O, Holy Night" that Special K has sung for many years. We wanted to give the audience a taste of three Christmas songs instead of just one. During rehearsals in the two months leading up to the performance we devoted our time to perfecting our dynamics, blend, and harmonies. We also worked on capturing the emotion and sentimentality of each song.

After we finished our finals and rehearsals on the Hill, we drove to the New York City area to stay with members of Special K who live nearby. On the day of our performance, a representative from the "Sounds of Christmas" program led us through the many stairways and passageways to a backstage practice room. Bella Nichol '19 was in awe of the theater's backstage area, which was as large as one full city block.

"The entire experience was unbelievable, but I think the craziest part was being backstage," said Nichol. "We were walking around where so many incredible performers had been. The halls were lined with photographs of legendary shows, iconic backstage moments, and archived costumes.

Nichol continued: "Walking up to perform, I was even able to see Santa's sleigh getting ready to go on stage. It made me realize how special it was to be on that stage, where so many incredible musicians, dancers, and performers had stood. It was unlike anywhere else I had ever sung."

While walking to our practice room, we also got a peek at a few Rockettes warming up for the performance. It felt like a true 'celebrities are just like us' moment. We had around an hour to warm up, practice, and calm our nerves. Then, we went on stage. Our medley was only four minutes long, but it was worth every hour of preparation. Of the experience, Boyman said, "It was honestly kind of surreal. Especially to go from rehearsing in an empty Wellin Hall to being on that huge stage and looking out at all the people. It was also super rewarding because we put in so much hard work and gave a performance that I'm really proud of. It's kind of insane that we started rehearsing our holiday music in October but it definitely paid off and was super fun."

We were filled with joy after we performed, as we got to relax and enjoy the Christmas Spectacular. It was particularly rewarding to hear positive feedback from friends, family, Special K alumni, and even strangers in the audience.

Special K President Casey Tobin '19 added, "Performing at Radio City was such an amazing experience! Special K has given me so many wonderful things, between the amazing people I've met and the music I've been able to create with them. And it was really special to share that with so many people on such a large scale."

Special K is looking forward to bringing the success of our Radio City performance to the Hill for an excellent spring semester.

PHOTO COURTESTY OF JOSIE BLATT '21

Special K belts out one of three songs they performed in opening for the Radio City Rockettes on Dec. 16 in New York City.

"Oscar goes to:" and the predictions for the 2019 Academy Awards

by Katherine Kim '22
Staff Writer

There's a chill in the air and it's definitely not from dropping temperatures. During this time of the year, Hollywood begins its merry-go-round of award shows to acknowledge notable works of entertainment. Both the Golden Globes and the SAG (Screen Actors Guild) Awards have already handed out their statuettes, but all eyes now turn to the most well-known and arguably most significant awards — the Oscars.

On Jan. 22, the Academy of Motion Pictures and Sciences announced nominations for their established categories. For Best Actress, established legends like Glenn Close and Olivia Colman could easily take the title, but some fierce newcomers undoubtedly threaten their chances. First-time nominees Yalitza Aparicio, Melissa McCarthy, and Lady Gaga all delivered powerhouse performances in their respective films. Thus, in this category, one hesitates to predict a decisive winner, considering how all of these actresses' efforts have immensely enriched their characters.

The Best Actor category has more well-known nominees, but deciding a winner for this category is no less difficult. Hollywood has favored Bradley Cooper, Willem Dafoe, Christian Bale, and Viggo Mortensen for years. Any of them may have a good chance to snag the Oscar. However, Rami Malek's stellar performance in *Bohemian Rhapsody* (2018) has already won him the Golden Globe and the SAG Award for Best Actor, which greatly increases his likelihood of winning the Oscar.

Thankfully, the Academy has made the Best Animation category a little easier to predict; *Spider-Man: Into the Spiderverse* (2018) will definitely take home the Oscar. While *Mirai* (2018) and *Isle of Dogs* (2018) are bold in story and in enchanting animation styles, they do not hold a candle to *Into the Spiderverse*. Additionally, though the Oscars tend to give the award to Disney, this year's Disney nominees — *The Incredibles 2* (2018) and *Ralph Breaks the Internet* (2018) — lack the rich narrative and innovative animation techniques that *Into the Spiderverse* possesses.

The Best Picture category, usually homogenous in story style, includes a variety of genres this year. Charged biopics like *BlacKkKlansman* (2018), directed by Spike Lee, and *Bohemian Rhapsody*, directed by Bryan Singer, respectively claimed nominations in multiple prestigious award shows, making them possible contenders of the award. However, the Academy does not stray too far from old habits; melodramas like *Roma* (2018), directed by Alfonso Cuarón, and *A Star Is Born* (2018), directed by Bradley Cooper, could easily scoop up the Best Picture award for themselves. The Academy tends to favor these types of films.

Those films that do not have a specific genre to typify them include the action-packed and philosophical *Black Panther* (2018), directed by Ryan Coogler, the political drama of *Vice* (2018), directed by Adam McKay, the unapologetic historical commentary in *Green Book* (2018), directed by Peter Farrelly, and the surreal historical comedy of *The Favourite* (2018), directed by Yorgos Logorithmios.

Previous award shows like the Golden Globes and the SAGs usually indicate which nominees to have a strong likelihood of winning. Considering its victories in both shows, *Bohemian Rhapsody* has the biggest chance to take home Best Picture. However, the Oscars can occasionally break this tradition; during the 2017 award season, Damien Chazelle's *La La Land* (2016) swept up countless Golden Globes but merely claimed two Oscars.

When considering a Best Picture winner, the Academy tends to focus on the social relevance of a movie. *Bohemian Rhapsody* has a huge advantage in this area, since the film explores the lives of the legendary members in Queen — a band that continues to influence pop culture and music. The Academy also has a proclivity to favor movies that show the complexity of human lives. *Bohemian Rhapsody* certainly does this by making the audience empathize with the life of Freddie Mercury. From his tentative hopes for musical success to his serious thoughts about being queer, *Bohemian Rhapsody* definitely shows Mercury as a multilayered and complex individual.

However, Alfonso Cuarón's *Roma* also has potential to win Best Picture. Not only does it immediately grab the Academy's attention as a melodrama, but it also tells the emotionally intimate story of a 1970s Mexican family, fitting the Academy's love of movies which highlight the intricacies of the human character. *Roma* possesses immense social relevance. Cuarón does not hesitate to show how class struggles incites violence that severely endangers the fragile life of the family, a message that sadly applies to many innocent communities across the world.

With such a variety of nominees across each category, the Academy invites much intrigue and anticipation for the results — a perfect combination to increase watching numbers. Regardless of the winners, many will certainly tune in to support their favorite nominees and the Oscars will, ultimately, entertain their audience.

The 2019 Oscars will premiere at 8:00 PM on Feb. 24.

Movie-watching at the Oneida Movieplex has just been taken to a whole new level of comfort and relaxation. The Oneida Movieplex is thrilled to announce the installation of luxury plush, fully reclining chairs that provide audiences with a first-class movie watching experience. Moviegoers can lean back and relax as they enjoy a premium recliner that features a powered push button recline mechanism and superior leg room for extra comfort. All nine auditoriums in the complex now boast reclining chairs.

In addition to the plush recliners, the Oneida Movieplex is also offering $5 movie tickets for all showtimes before noon, $5 tickets all day Tuesday and $1 small popcorn with each admission on Wednesdays. Kick back in the new recliners and take advantage of the ultimate movie viewing experience and wide selection of films that the Oneida Movieplex offers. Upcoming movies include Fahrenheit 11/9, The Wife, The House With a Clock in Its Walls, Life Itself, Night School, Small Foot, A Star is Born, Venom, Goosebumps, Halloween, The Nutcracker and the Four Realms, Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald, Ralph Breaks the Internet, Mary Poppins Returns and Aquaman.

With all the fabulous movies being released we hope that everyone will come out and experience the thrills and escapism that only movies can offer.

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STUDENT ASSEMBLY FALL 2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. 45,656 words and 95 pages of Minutes
2. Allocated $101,743.76 to Hamilton clubs and organizations
3. International Week
4. Lighting of our Village
5. Pizza with SA!
6. Menstrual Hygiene Initiative
7. Approved 12 new student clubs and organizations
8. Designated Parking for Rogers Residents in Root Faculty
9. Committee Restructuring
10. Constitutional Changes
11. International Week
12. Class Banners
13. YWCA Mohawk Valley Ribbon Fundraiser

Ongoing Projects

1. "Grab n Go" in Commons
2. Welcome Packets for SA members
3. Publicity partnership with The Spectator
4. Student Diversity Council Revamp
5. Revamping Bundy Dining Hall

Men's basketball looks to move forward after weekend split

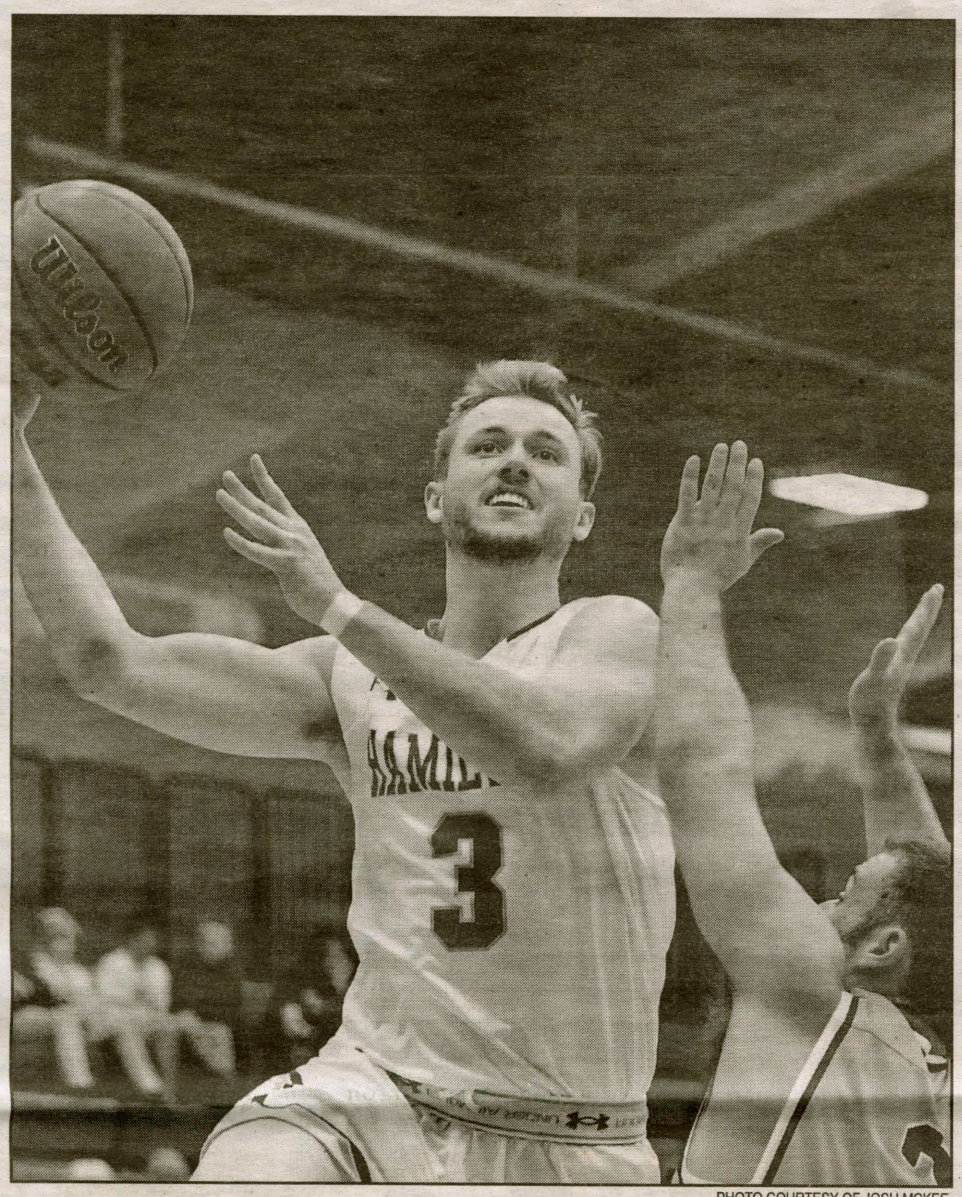


PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Guard Mark Lutz '20 tallied a career-high 22 points in the Continentals' win over Wells College on Jan. 28.

from ***Basketball,*** *page 16*

them into 27 points.

While Friday's game versus Bowdoin was decided in the paint, Saturday's contest against Colby College was settled beyond the three-point arc. Colby drained 13 shots from beyond the 3-point line, compared to just 4 for Hamilton.

The Mules showed a willingness to pull up and shoot from well behind the three-point line, and were not deterred by misfires; along with making 13 threes, Colby missed 22.

Still, the Mules' decision to live or die by the three eventually paid off. After making just 6-of-20 shots from beyond the arc in the first half, Colby was much more efficient in the second half, going 7-for-15.

"Colby is a very quick team with lots of shooters spacing the court. They put a lot of pressure on their opponent's defense. They forced us to guard more of the court than normal.

[The 13 threes] resulted from a combination of a strong shooting team and some breakdowns on our end," said Stockwell.

"Moving forward, we are going to work on improving our defensive positioning, attention to detail in scouting reports and personnel, and ensuring that we bring the type of defensive energy we had against Bowdoin. We absolutely need to become more aware of our defensive rotations and spacing to be prepared for Bates and Tufts, who provide challenges similar to Colby."

The Continentals were strong out of the gate Saturday, grabbing a 10-2 lead in the opening three minutes, but Colby soon erased it with an 8-0 run over the next 2:09.

The two teams battled back and forth the remainder of the first half. Colby enjoyed a slim advantage going into halftime, leading 36-34.

Then it was the Mules turn to charge hard out of the gate. They opened the second half with a 10-2 run, creating a 46-36 cushion.

Though Hamilton battled back to pull within 3 points with 15:32 remaining, they didn't get closer than that the rest of the game, with Colby taking its largest lead of 12 points at 85-73 with 51 seconds to go.

Gilmour again led the Continentals in scoring, racking up 24 points to go with 23 the night before. He also pulled down 9 rebounds. Groll finished with 12 points and 7 rebounds, and Michael Grassey '21 scored 11, going 6 of 7 from the free throw line.

The offensive attack for the Mules was lead by junior guard Sam Jefferson '20, who scored 29 points on 9 of 14 shooting from the field, including 6 three pointers.

The team rebounded quickly with a 80-65 non-conference win over the Wells College Express on Jan. 28. Mark Lutz '20 led all scorers with a career-high 22 points.

Hamilton will host two NESCAC opponents again next weekend, taking on Bates College on Friday, Feb. 1 at 7:00 PM and Tufts University on Saturday, Feb. 2 at 3:00 PM, both in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House.

Women's hockey hosts charity game

from ***Hockey,*** *page 16*

donation basket from Utica Coffee, and a Hamilton women's hockey fan package (which includes a jersey, a puck and a signed stick.)

Tickets can be purchased online (https://go.rallyup.com/hamiltonwomenshockey/Campaign). T-shirts for the event will also be sold during the game. The raffle drawing will take place at 4:00 PM on Saturday, Feb. 2 during the charity game. Winners will be notified soon after.

The Continentals will also welcome a special guest before the game: Lauren Lemieux, one of Austin's sisters and daughter of Mario Lemieux, who plans to attend and partake in the ceremonial puck drop at the start of the game.

With an overall record of 10-6-2 so far this season, the Continentals hope to break their two game losing streak this weekend with back-to-back games against Bowdoin. Their performance may be buoyed by their considerable fundraising efforts.

The charity game will take place on Saturday, Feb. 2 at 3:00 PM, and the Continentals also play on Friday, Feb. 1 at 7:00 PM. Both games are at the Russell Sage Ice rink against the Bowdoin College Polar Bears.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

The women's ice hockey team has exceeded their $4,000 fundraising goal and will continue to raise money until the game on Saturday, Feb. 2.

Super Bowl LIII preview in five words: "Never bet against Tom Brady."

by Matt Cappelletti '21
STAFF WRITER

Super Bowl LIII: The New England Patriots (again) versus the Los Angeles Rams in the Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta, GA. There may be a lot of unanswered questions such as: "Will the Chick-Fil-A be open in Atlanta on Super Bowl Sunday?" or "How did the AFC and NFC Championship games both finish in overtime?" but ultimately, there's only a few things you need to know.

Patriots quarterback Tom Brady is making his 40th career appearance in an NFL playoff game and his ninth Super Bowl appearance. Although Brady is 2-3 in his last five Super Bowls (two of these losses to the New York Giants) he is looking to add some rings to his other hand with a sixth championship on Sunday night. Head coach Bill Belichick and Brady are easily the oldest active head coach-quarterback duo and have a ton of playoff experience. That being said, Rams head coach Sean McVay and his young QB, Jared Goff, have a fiery offense looking to jump out to an early lead in Super Bowl 53.

Brady is not slowing down at 41 years old, though. He has won four Super Bowl MVP awards and three League MVP awards throughout his career. The Brady-Belichick combo is experienced on the big stage. According to *Bleacher Report*, every time Brady plays in a Super Bowl, he has a better chance of winning than LeBron James currently does of making a free throw. This means that Brady, based on his record in the big game, has more than a 70 percent chance of winning any given Super Bowl.

On the other hand, Goff, the 24-year-old quarterback from Kentfield, CA, and 32-year-old head coach McVay are excited for the opportunity to compete with some football legends. Goff played college football at University of California Berkeley where he was named first-team All-Pac-12 in 2015 and was drafted by the Rams with the first overall pick in the 2016 NFL Draft. By helping his team reach the Super Bowl so early in his career, he has definitely lived up to the hype of being drafted first overall. The Goff-McVay pair has successfully implemented a West Coast passing offense, complemented by a strong backfield featuring CJ Anderson and Todd Gurley, who rushed for over 1,200 yards this season.

In the Rams NFC Championship matchup against the New Orleans Saints, there was a controversial "no call" on an apparent defensive pass interference from Rams cornerback Nickell Robey-Coleman. If there had been a penalty, the Saints would have had a first down and could have run down the clock and kicked a field goal to advance to the Super Bowl. The controversial call is now perhaps as infamous as Dez Bryant's "non-catch" in the 2015 playoffs. The Patriots' offensive cast includes Rob Gronkowski, whose last game could be this Sunday. The Patriots' offense features Gronkowski, Chris Hogan, and Julian Edelman, who all had outstanding performances in the AFC Championship game, which also resulted in an overtime victory for New England despite a valiant effort from Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs.

This year was the first time both the AFC and NFC Championship games finished in overtime, so Super Bowl 53 is slated to be a thrilling one. The Patriots' backfield with James White and Sony Michel is speedy and will look to get outside on the Rams' intimidating defensive line.

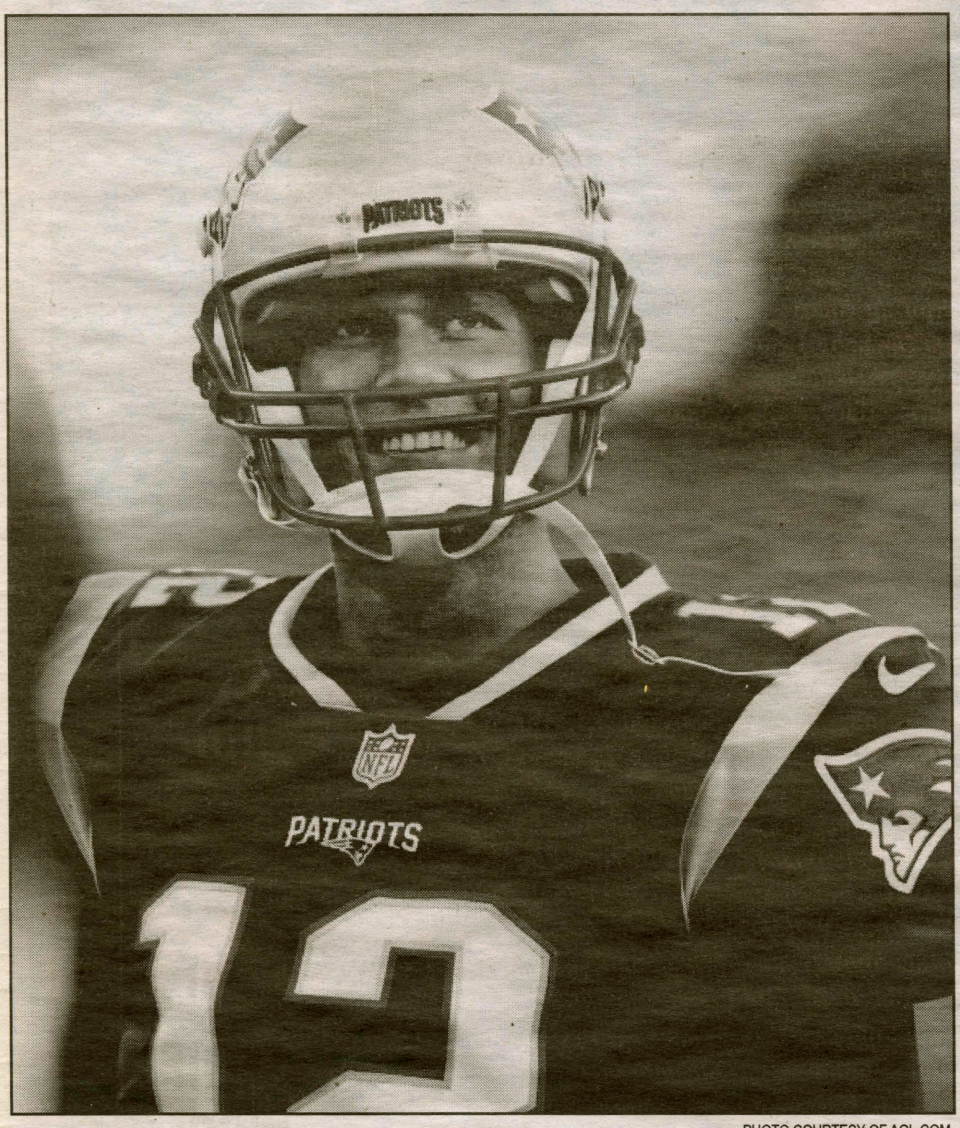
In terms of the outcome of Super Bowl 53, the Los Angeles Rams have a better chance of winning given that the Mercedes-Benz Stadium is indoors and the Rams are acclimated to playing in warmer temperatures. However, Brady's experience on the Super Bowl stage, his incredible postseason performances, and his confidence will set the Patriots up to win their sixth Super Bowl within two decades.

People from outside of Central New York might consider Hamilton College to be a part of New England, especially given that it is in the New England Small College Athletic Conference. Let me be clear. Hamilton College is *not* in New England. It seems like everyone I meet at Hamilton is from "just outside of Boston," so Super Bowl LIII will be the same as any other Patriots' Super Bowl in terms of the non-New England fans and their relentless chirping toward the Patriots.

Fortunately (or unfortunately, depending who you are rooting for,) it appears as if TB12 will never have a mediocre season. He will retire when there is absolutely no possibility of his team winning a championship. Will that be soon? I don't know. But his impeccable self-care and workout plan suggest it might not be. According to Brady, this is not his last game and he is "the baddest [expletive] in the league." So, I'll let that speak for itself.

Prediction: The Rams, as exciting as their offense is, will not have enough to outlast the veteran Patriots in Atlanta this Sunday. Never bet against Brady. Maybe it is the fact that he has played in more postseason games than 18 NFL franchises have. It could also be that he has won more playoff games than 27 franchises. Or possibly that he has more postseason passing touchdowns than Goff does in his entire career. Or that he has 2,576 passing yards in Super Bowls alone.

Despite the indoor playing field, the Rams' West Coast passing offense, and Aaron Donald on the defensive line, Goff and the Rams lack Super Bowl experience and are up against arguably the greatest head coach-quarterback duo in football history. That being said, I'll be rooting for the underdog. But, remember, never bet against Tom Brady.



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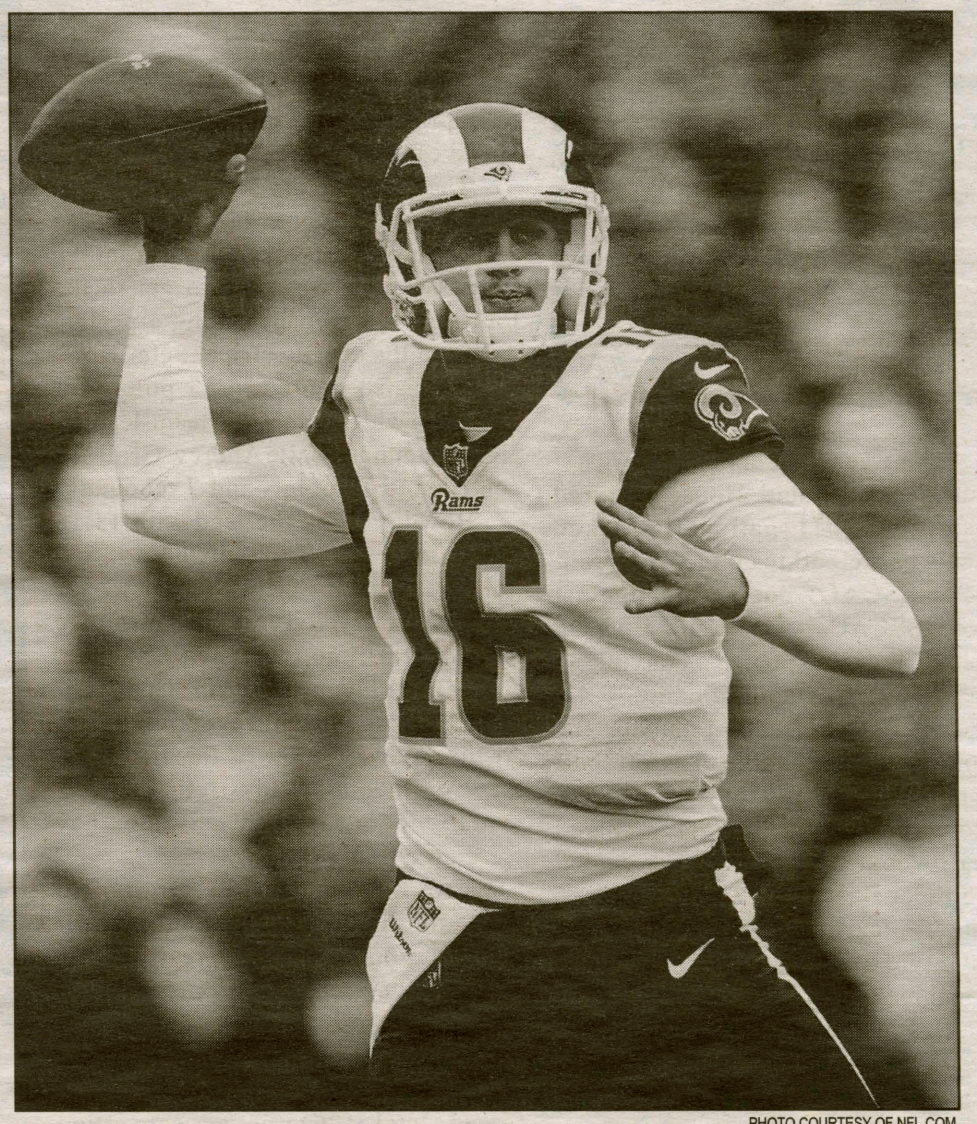

PHOTO COURTESY OF NFL.COM

Patriots' quarterback Tom Brady (left) will make his ninth Super Bowl start this Sunday, while Rams' quarterback Jared Goff (right) is young and untested but has lived up to the hype of being a first overall draft pick.

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
January 31, 2019

Women's hockey to host charity game to benefit Mario Lemieux Foundation

by Kelcie Zarle '22
Staff Writer

When the women's ice hockey team takes to the ice on Saturday, Feb. 2, they will be wearing different uniforms in honor of their annual charity game. This year's event aims to raise money for Austin's Playroom Project, an initiative of the Mario Lemieux Foundation. All proceeds will directly support the cause. With just a few days left before the game, the team has already exceeded their fundraising goal of $4,000 and it hopes to raise even more before the game's final horn.

For this year's game, the women's ice hockey team chose to support the Mario Lemieux Foundation, specifically Austin's Playroom Project, for various reasons. The Mario Lemieux Foundation was founded in 1993 by the all-time hockey great Mario Lemieux and his wife, Nathalie. Lemieux, who played 17 seasons in the NHL between 1984 and 2006, is now the owner of the Pittsburgh Penguins. The Penguins won two Stanley Cups with Lemieux as captain, and three with him as owner, making him the only person to have his name on the famed trophy as both a skater and an owner. The foundation works to raise money for cancer research and patient care.

Lemieux's foundation is personal for him: he is a cancer survivor himself, and his organization's goals were borne of personal experience. In 1996, Mario and Nathalie's son, Austin, was born prematurely and spent 71 days in a neonatal intensive care unit as a result. At the time, their two daughters were toddlers, and the Lemieux family found that while they spent time caring for Austin, there was nothing in the hospital to distract Austin's young sisters. This experience led them to the realization that playrooms were needed, hence the seed of an idea for the Austin's Playroom Project. Since then, playrooms have been incorporated into over 30 hospitals in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. These playrooms have also spread to multiple military hospitals throughout the United States.

The money raised in this year's charity game will be put toward building more playrooms that will provide families with safe and comfortable healing environments during stressful or extended hospital stays.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Kelli Mackey '20 leads the team in fundraising and is fourth on the team in assists.

In order to raise money for the event, the Continentals set up a donation page as well as an online raffle. So far, the team has raised over double their $300 goal in donations on the page, and over $4,000 in raffle tickets. The online raffle will available until Feb. 2 at 3:30 PM. The raffle items include two front row glass tickets to the Pittsburgh Penguins vs. Boston Bruins game on March 10 in Pittsburgh, PA, a signed Sidney Crosby Pittsburgh Penguins jersey, a signed Mario Lemieux Pittsburgh Penguins jersey, a signed Mario Lemieux Hamilton jersey, various gift card items, an assorted

*see **Hockey**, page 14*

Men's basketball splits weekend against Maine NESCAC rivals

by Ben Westcott '20
Staff Writer

	1	2	F
Bowdoin	25	17	42
#11 Hamilton	39	38	77

	1	2	F
Colby	36	50	86
#11 Hamilton	34	44	77

This weekend's action at Margaret Bundy Scott Field House featured Hamilton's #11 nationally-ranked men's basketball team (17-2 overall, 3-2 NESCAC) competing against two NESCAC rivals from Maine. On Friday, the team posted a convincing victory over Bowdoin, winning 77-42.

On both sides of the ball, the Continentals were able to assert their dominance close to the basket. They scored 42 points in the paint compared to Bowdoin's 20, and out-rebounded the Polar Bears 39-27.

"Typically, we try for an 'inside-out' style of play, to have a balanced offensive attack with scoring opportunities inside as well as opportunities from the three-point line," said head coach Adam Stockwell. "In the Bowdoin game, the opportunities presented themselves more frequently in the paint. Part of that was our guys being extremely aggressive and pursuing more interior opportunities, which is definitely a mindset we are trying to encourage. Hopefully, we can continue to improve the development of a balanced offensive attack."

The Continentals' scoring effort was led by Kena Gilmour '20, who scored 23 points on 7-of-13 shooting from the field. Gilmour was able to get to the foul line and convert, going a perfect 7-7 from the charity stripe. Peter Hoffman '19 also poured in 12 points for Hamilton while grabbing a team-leading eight rebounds, while Andrew Groll '19 contributed 10 points and 7 rebounds.

Bowdoin took the lead with 13:18 remaining in the first half on a three-pointer by Jack Bors to go up 13-12. Hamilton answered less than a minute later when Gilmour assisted a Spencer Kendall '21 layup, giving the Continentals a lead they would never relinquish. At the midway point of the first half, the Continentals had stretched their lead to 6 points, and by halftime, they were up by 14.

Hamilton's defensive efforts stifled Bowdoin's offensive attack throughout the game, but the defense really hit its stride in the second half, allowing the Polar Bears to score only 17 points on a 26.1% shooting percentage from the field. In addition, Hamilton's defense forced a total of 26 turnovers, converting

*see **Basketball**, page 14*

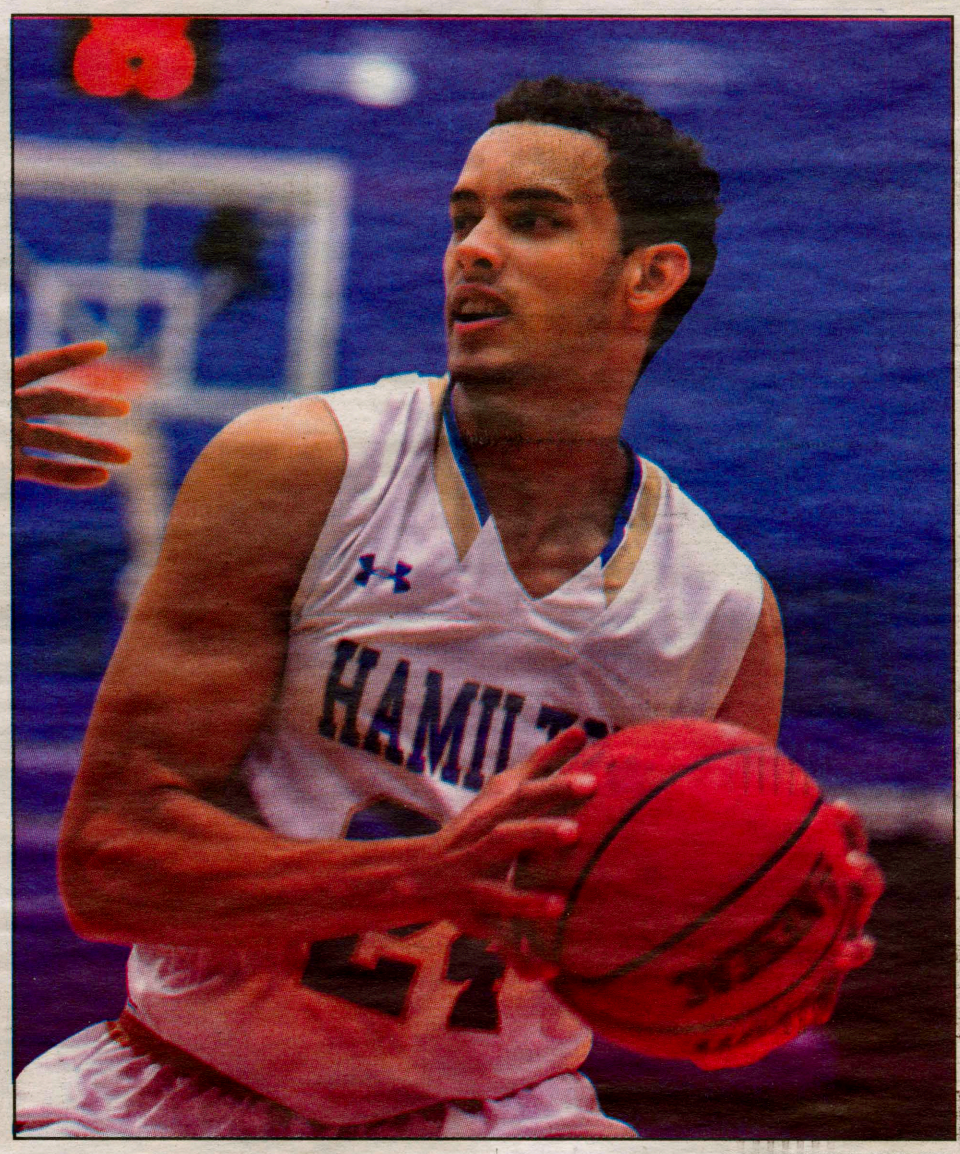

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

A dynamic scorer, Kena Gilmour '20 leads the Continentals and the NESCAC with 19.9 points per game.